

Eastern Illinois University  
**The Keep**

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November

2000

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11-27-2000

# Daily Eastern News: November 27, 2000

Eastern Illinois University

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“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”



## News

Bad credit? Join the club.

Story on Page 3

## News

Boys basketball team suffers loss against No. 8 Iowa State on Sunday.

Story on Page 12



## Sports

Grizzlies rip open the Panthers in the first round of the playoffs.

Story on Page 12



# Students relax, visit over break

## Thanksgiving holiday gives chance to rest up before finals

By Michelle Jones  
Campus editor

The week of Thanksgiving break was a much-needed time for students to relax and visit with family and friends, but students still missed aspects of Eastern and now look forward to finishing the semester.

“I worked and shopped and hung out with my family,” said Courtney Fidler, a junior elementary education major.

Fidler said the best part of her break was getting to see her family. She is a little happy to be back at Eastern and is looking forward to finishing the semester.

The break was a good chance to spend a lot of time with friends, said Leah Henderson, a sophomore accounting major.

“We went to the movies, and we went shopping. We hung out,” Henderson said.

Henderson might have spent a lot of time with her friends from home, but she still missed her friends from school.

“I’m in Kappa Delta, and I missed all my Kappa Delta sisters,” she said.

For the last three weeks of the semester, Henderson said she will work harder on her grades.

Charles Smith, a sophomore undecided major, sat around and ate over his break. He said he enjoyed seeing his family and friends from home.

“I missed my family a bit,”

Smith said.

He said he is and he isn’t happy to be back at Eastern.

“It’s going to be a busy few weeks,” he said.

Corey Brelsfoard and Chris Brown said they relaxed and slept a lot during the break. But, Brelsfoard said he missed his friends from school and having things to do.

“There’s not a whole lot to do when you go back home,” Brelsfoard, a junior biology major said.

He is happy to be back at school because he missed the food.

Brown, a freshman undecided major, said he missed his friends at Eastern. His goal for the rest of the semester is to finish the semester with good grades.

Another student also caught up on some sleep over break. Tammie Hart, a junior 2-D studio art major, said her break was relaxing. The highlight of her break was seeing her sister who also was home from college.

“She goes to college up at Chicago, and I don’t see her a lot,” Hart said. “It was nice to eat with her and stay with her for four days.”

The freedom of college made Hart miss Eastern.

“After awhile I wanted to get away from my family,” she said.

She also said she missed her friends at school, and her goal is to

See **BREAK** Page 9



Sara Figiel / Photo editor

Cierra Murphy (left), a junior family and consumer science major, and Kristney Vaulx (right), a junior art major, return to Lawson Hall on Sunday afternoon after leaving for Thanksgiving break after classes last week. Murphy and Vaulx both bring in their luggage from the week’s vacation.

## Professor balances teaching, life

By Jennifer Rigg  
Staff writer

Professor David Raybin never sits down inside his classroom. He is up walking around, hitting all four corners of the room to get each and every student involved. He pulls his students into the material not by talking at them, but by asking them questions and getting them involved in discussion.

A pure passion for literature emits from him, and anyone who listens can’t help but absorb it.

Raybin is a medieval literature professor. About 11 years ago, he attended a seminar at the University of Connecticut on Chaucer. There he met and fell in love with a woman from Kent, Ohio.

“For two months, we read Chaucer together,” he said. “It was a wonderful, wonderful thing because it’s nice to be in love, but it was also terrible because it meant that I had to start commuting,” he said laughing.

This was the beginning of many

### Monday profile

A weekly series featuring a person on campus or in the city

weekends that he takes the five- to six-hour flight to Kent to see his family. He goes home every Thursday after his last class and is there until Monday afternoon when he flies back to Charleston.

His wife is the chair of the English department at Kent State University and is also a medievalist. When Raybin married her, she had two daughters, one age 19 and one age 17. He and his wife have a 10-year-old son together.

How does he find time to juggle both teaching here and taking care of a family back home? To him the answer is easy. “I love them both...that’s how I do it,” he said.

Raybin was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. and lived there through college. His mother was a high school English teacher and his father was a lawyer. Raybin

attended Columbia College and graduated with a bachelor of arts in English Literature.

He then left his home of New York and moved to Paris.

“I thought when you leave college and you want to write, you needed to go to Paris,” he said.

He stayed in Paris for one year working small jobs to earn the money he needed to live.

“I loved Paris,” he said. “I loved to just walk all over...I would walk everywhere,” he said.

While he was in Paris, he decided he wanted to become a teacher, so he came back to Columbia College and attended graduate school studying English and comparative literature.

“I made a point of doing things in French, so when I had to do my dissertation I could go back to France,” he said. “I wanted to go back.”

Raybin’s passion for literature

See **BALANCE** Page 9

## University changes to UPS mail service

By Michelle Jones  
Campus editor

The university will now be able to have next day letter mail through United Parcel Service at a discounted price, said Harriet Rose, director of administrative services.

For the past two years, the university has had a discount arrangement with Fed-Ex through the University of Illinois, but Fed-Ex is no longer giving the discount, Rose said. UPS is offering lower prices based on volume, she said.

Employees are not required to use UPS, Rose said. They can choose to use UPS, Airborne, Fed-Ex or the USPS services, she said.

“We’re not requiring people

to use it,” she said. “They still have their selection.”

Next day letter mail through UPS is a new service UPS is offering. The university has always used UPS for ground service, but this is the first time it is offering over-night letter mail, Rose said.

The new service only affects workers at the university. People have to have a postage account with the university to benefit from the service, she said.

The university prepared for the new service with two seminars. The purpose of the seminars was to introduce the new service to fiscal agents and people sending out mail and to train them on how to send out the mail and to fill out the forms, Rose said.



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Eastern  
News

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Workshop to help students  
prepare for final exams

By Jamie Moore  
Activities editor

Finals are approaching soon, and the Learning Assistance Center is offering a workshop to give students tips to get them successfully through their exams.

The workshop, “The Strong Finish - Final Exams,” will focus on the spiral down technique, which is a way of managing time, said Mark May, assistant director of the Academic Advising and Learning Assistance Center.

“The technique is a cramming technique that is used under the assumption that the student does

not have enough time,” he said.

Setting priorities, study tips and nutrition also will be discussed at the workshop.

The most important thing to know going into finals is the need to prioritize. Students need to start preparing for finals early, May said.

“Many students wait until the last minute to study and feel overwhelmed,” he said. “Now is the time to start preparing and studying.”

The workshop will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in Room 2016 of the Ninth Street Hall.

Reservations for the workshop

“Many students wait until the last minute to study and feel overwhelmed. Now is the time to start preparing and studying.

Mark May,  
assistant director of the Academic  
Advising and Learning Assistance  
Center

are encouraged and can be made by calling the Learning Assistance Center at 581- 6696.



Sara Figiel / Photo editor

Craft making

Kelli Wilson, a junior art major, concentrates at the wheel as she works on making her deadline Sunday evening in the Doudna Fine Arts building. Wilson carefully molds her lid to finish her assignment.

What’s on  
tap?

Special events open to all students, faculty, staff and community members can be published in What’s on tap. Events limited to specific groups or organizations or regularly scheduled events can be published in CampusClips. To have your event included send details, including time, date, place and cost, to cualt2@pen.eiu.edu or bring a written statement to 1811 Buzzard Hall.

Today

7:10 p.m., Panther Men’s Basketball vs. Western Illinois, Lantz Gym

Tuesday

3:30 p.m., “An Economic Analysis of a Drug Selling Gang’s Finances,” Lumpkin Hall Room 122  
5 p.m., “The Strong Finish - Final Exams,” Ninth Street Hall Room 2016  
7:30 p.m., “If We Could Talk To the Animals,” Charleston/Mattoon Room, Martin Luther King Jr. University Union

Wednesday

3:30 p.m., English Colloquium: Cuba “Tus Hijos Lloran: A Personal Perspective on Cuba,” Coleman Hall Room 333  
5 p.m., “The Strong Finish - Final Exams,” Ninth Street Hall Room 2016  
7:10 p.m., Panther Men’s Basketball vs. McKendree College  
5:15 p.m., Panther Women’s Basketball vs. Indiana State, Lantz Gym

three-day  
forecast

today



Tuesday



Wednesday



police  
blotter

Alcohol violations

Melissa A. Markowicz, 20, of the 400 block of Buchanan, was cited at 1:16 a.m. Oct. 29 at the same address on charges of purchase/acceptance of alcohol by a minor, selling alcohol without a license and possession of a keg without a permit, a police report stated.

Kristen E. Peterson, 19, of the 400 block of Buchanan, was cited at 1:16 a.m. Oct 29 at the same address on charges of purchase/acceptance of alcohol by a minor, selling alcohol without a license and possession of a keg without a permit, a police report stated.

Correction

An article in the Nov. 17 edition of the Daily Eastern News incorrectly stated who was disqualified from the election for the Residence Hall Association president.

Matt Wilson was disqualified from the election, and Joe Harr was elected RHA president.

The News regrets the error.



# Bad credit? Join the club

## Credit cards a serious risk for many college students

By Linhai Liew  
Senior reporter

They come to you while you are having coffee at Coffee Express. They call you up in the middle of dinner. They stuff your mailbox with offers. As if that is not enough, they insert ads in the newspapers and flood your television programs with seemingly irresistible offers.

No, they are not potential suitors; they are credit card companies.

For some people, fighting off credit card offers has become as much a part of the dinner ritual as having salad and potatoes.

"My parents get about 10 solicitation calls during dinner time," said Michael Conway, a sophomore philosophy and political science major. "I think it can get out of control."

Conway said he deals with solicitation calls by assessing the value of what the caller is offering.

"Sometimes, when I'm irritated, I just hang up, but sometimes I listen when they're informing me of a better deal," he said.

With the market awash with credit-card deals, finding a better deal can be a daunting task. According to bankrate.com, using rates from Sept 26, Pulaski Bank and Trust offers the lowest rate of all cards surveyed. Its rate is 8.75 percent with an annual fee of \$35. Capital One Bank's card, with a rate of 9.9 percent has the lowest rate among cards with no annual fee. Both are fixed rate cards. The average rate for all cards surveyed is 17.36 percent.

Conway said he thinks there may be quite some commercialization of the school by credit card companies this year, but compared to previous years, efforts were much tamer.

"They used to solicit on campus like crazy," said Conway, adding that fraternities were roped in to help the effort last year. "Fraternities got \$1 for every solicitation they got."

"(The school is) basically encouraging students to assume debt," Conway said. "I don't really see why they are doing that."

"They're encouraging irresponsible behavior with credit cards," he said, adding that new students may have a more irrational attitude to spending, because their payments have been cushioned by their parents.

Conway speaks from experience. He had a \$150 balance on his card, and it had ballooned into a \$600 debt in nine months when it went unpaid. Now, Conway adopts a seasonal approach to his payments. His \$500 current balance will be paid off from the work done in his job during the Thanksgiving break. The credit card will then be "maxed out" during Christmas and paid off with student loans when school reopens.

While credit card companies are battling it out on campus, an air war is raging on television among companies trying to get people out of credit card debt. Even Bob Villa has gotten into the game with a plug for Home123.com, a Web site offering mortgages to pay off credit card debts. A host of other Web sites such as credit.org (from Consumer Credit Counseling Service), nfcc.org (National Foundation for Credit Counseling) and profina.org also offer non-profit credit counseling and debt management, according to the November issue of Your Money.

Conway's example may be far milder compared to other Eastern students.

According to a survey of 400 students by students from business professor Ed Marlow's business financial management class, the average students have three credit cards and a total of \$800 in their balance. Marlow finds this figure "somewhat troubling." Marlow said that unless parents are paying off their credit card balances, students will have difficulty paying off such debts themselves.

"For a student who only has a part-time job, \$800 is a hefty balance," Marlow said.

It may be quite tempting for students to acquire debts, he said.

"It almost looks like free money for a while," he said.



Photo Illustration by Sara Figiel / Photo editor

Credit card companies are battling it out on campus and on television to get students' business. Many students get credit cards, but for some, a \$150 balance can balloon into a \$600 debt.

Students should at least try to make the minimum payments even if they have payment problems, Marlow said. If students anticipate some problems in paying, they should call their credit card companies in advance before the payment is due.

"Usually, if you give them notice, they are willing to work their way around some of those things," Marlow said. "If you just miss it without any explanation, that is going to hurt your credit rating."

Marlow said he finds no evidence that the more the credit card is "maxed out," the faster the credit limit rises. Credit limits, he said, rise with a good credit history and regular payments. Card holders also can negotiate with companies for better rates or limits.

In addition, Marlow also agreed that credit card companies are increasingly targeting students. However, he said there is no evidence they charge students with higher rates than normal. Rates depend on the companies' assessments of a person in the student's particular credit situation and does not differ from the general population.

"They are not taken advantage of more than anyone else," he said. "Increasingly, credit card companies view students as a good risk. (Their view is that) college students, once they graduate, will have good jobs, they'll be able to

make their payments, they'll be using credit cards for their purchases."

However, students should not take good jobs as a given. Marlow said students may be tempted to acquire huge credit debts in anticipation of paying it off with huge salaries after they graduate.

"It may not be that easy," Marlow said.

Although Conway may resent the commercialization of campus by credit card companies, he does so with a sense of empathy, having been in a sales job before.

"I'm not anti-credit card," Conway said, agreeing with several students interviewed that credit

I'm not anti-credit card.

Michael Conway,  
sophomore philosophy  
and political science major

cards do come in handy for emergencies and for building up credit.

However, credit cards do encourage consumers to get what they want now instead of saving up for it and getting it later, he said.

"That's the American system – buy, buy, buy," he said.

### At glance

#### Ways to get out of credit card debt

n Try to work out a modified payment plan as soon as possible with those you owe money to.

n If you're having trouble making car payments, know that financing contracts often let the financing company repossess your car with no advance notice. Try hard to work out car payment problems.

n Be cautious about turning to a debt counseling company to solve your debt problems. Avoid paying in advance until you find out what the company can really do. Before you sign any contract, check out the organization with the Better

Business Bureau or your local consumer protection agency.

n You may want to contact a non-profit counseling service, such as the Consumer Credit Counseling Service (CCCS), for help. You can find CCCS listed in your telephone white pages. In addition, non-profit financial counseling programs are sometimes offered by universities, military bases, and credit unions.

Information courtesy of the Center For Debt Management:  
<http://Center4DebtManagement.com/CreditRepairArticles/Plastics.html>

And you thought  
you were safe...



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Brenda

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## Image improvement

When people begin a new position and set specific goals, they need to make sure they stick with their goals and carry them out. It is easy to be excited about ideas but then get caught up in everyday responsibilities and not carry them through.

Ted Ghibellini, a 26-year veteran of the Charleston Police Department, was named as the city's new police chief in early November.

Ghibellini said he has several goals he wants to address as police chief. It is good that he has several ideas, and he should work to see his ideas become reality.

Ghibellini said he wants to soften the image of the police and make the community and the police department work together better.

He said the police department should find ways to be involved with the Charleston community.

A task such as this one should not be a hard one to accomplish.

### Realistic goals

Charleston's new police chief has set some realistic goals for his department and the community that can be obtained with a little effort on everyone's part.

Ghibellini said he wants to address are technology and effectiveness within the department.

He said he will work on new technology advancements. Technology is a good goal to pursue because of its growing presence.

The issues Ghibellini is concerned with will not happen all at once. Projects such as being involved with the community will take time, effort and patience, and technology is always changing, so Ghibellini will need to continue to pursue his goals even after he has taken one step forward.

Ghibellini was chosen out of a national field of 22 applicants. The team of city manager Bill Riebe, Mayor Dan Cougill, city attorney Brain Bower and Charleston City Council member Larry Rennels chose him out of all their other choices, so Ghibellini needs to make sure he follows through on his ideas.

Ghibellini's ideas are good. He could make the police force more approachable and a more positive figure in the community as long as he does not forget about his goals.

Showing up for a community event or taking the highly productive, proactive, visible approach Ghibellini said is needed can help the community.

Other issues

The editorial is the opinion of the editorial board of The Daily Eastern News.

## Today's quote

Its name is Public Opinion. It is held in reverence. It settles everything. Some think it is the Voice of God.

Mark Twain,  
writer, journalist 1900

## Technology wins in Florida elections

I can't help but chuckle every time I flip past C-SPAN or Fox News and I see a handful of United States citizens sitting around a table in Florida staring intensely at an election ballot in order to determine the voters intent.

After all, this is the new millennium, the year 2000. The only thing we were supposed to be semi-concerned about this year was the disastrous Y2K virus, not recounts of the presidential election ballots.

Maybe the election disaster in Florida is some delayed effect of that dreaded Y2K bug, or perhaps technology has kicked us in the ass again.

Yes, technology has once again failed to deliver its overwhelming convenience. Instead, the ballot counting machines have turned out to be inaccurate in its counts, leaving a handful of people sitting around a table in various counties in Florida looking at broken, dimpled and pregnant chads.

What image is this sending to the rest of the world? Other countries get C-SPAN, Fox News and CNN, and they too are witnessing what is happening in Florida. We are supposed to be the most powerful nation in the world. We also are ranked amongst the best in terms of technology. But still, we are left with the images of canvassing board members taking out a magnifying glass to examine the back of the ballots and arguing over how many chads have been pushed through the backs of the ballots.

I guess the positive side to this hand recount in Florida is now almost every American citizen fully understands the voting process and its lingo. How many people knew what chads were before Florida failed to deliver an accurate count?

It is sad to think that a country that relies so heavily on technology now has to resort to using the human eye and subjective judgment in order to determine the voter's intent. I agree fully with the decision to recount the ballots by hand, but no one can honestly say the final recount is going to be 100 percent objec-



Chris Sievers  
Editorial Page editor

"Maybe the election disaster in Florida is some delayed effect of that dreaded Y2K bug, or perhaps technology has kicked us in the ass again."

tive. Those human hands and eyes that are involved in the extensive recounts in Florida have political ties to them. The judges who are making the final rulings and the members of the canvassing boards in Florida all have strong political ties. They were elected because they could carry on their party's cause.

Is this any way to conduct an election that will elect

the most powerful person in the world? Probably not, but if there is a small glimmer of hope that in the end the hand counts will be more accurate then computer counts, then it is worth all of the effort from those who are spending their time doing the final recount.

If I were involved in the race that was too close to call and the subject of all the hand recounts, I'm not sure I would want to be the winner. The winner has a long road ahead of him. With such a small margin of victory, everyone would question whether he was the true winner or won by default.

I believe the winner will be the one who has the better legal counsel not the one with the most votes. We've seen over the last couple of weeks each side filing their legal briefs in the court system. And we've seen those legal tactics move through every level of the courts, with the final appeal going before the United States Supreme Court on Friday.

Once again, the fate of the presidency has been left into the hands of judges with political ties. Every judge that will review the cases concerning the hand recounts in Florida has some sort of political affiliation. That is how they got appointed to the position.

Yes, we do live in a land of democracy. But as has been seen over the last three weeks, democracy has fuzzy vision filled with partisan eyes.

Chris Sievers is a junior journalism major and a bi-monthly columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*. His e-mail address is [cucds6@pen.eiu.edu](mailto:cucds6@pen.eiu.edu). Columns are the opinion of the author.



## Don't attack other's character

What is Michael Strange saying? I don't know. Ohhhhh, ahhhhh, ohhhh, fear, fear of the unknown, oahhh, fear of not understanding, then ahhhh, anger and aggression, I must not be the alienated one, ohhh, him, him! It must be Michael Strange's fault. He doesn't fit in. I must defend myself and persecute him!

I can only imagine what goes through the head of Steven Lepic, who launched a personal attack on someone he doesn't know for writing editorials he doesn't understand. What prompts someone to

## Your turn

Letters to the editor

write a scathing letter, not against someone's opinion, but against his character and the methods he uses to convey his opinion? Michael Strange's letters may take a few minutes to read, but if you look carefully, they do make sense.

Why would one want to criticize him for writing intelligently? Fear, is all I can imagine.

The same mindset that causes most pointless wars and crimes against humanity might just be the same thing that causes Steven Lepic

to write such a cruel letter.

Daniel Gerling  
English graduate student

## Not worth a battle of wits; care to dance?

Trying to have a battle of wits with an unarmed person (S. Lepic) while their head remains firmly into a certain body cavity is exemplary, but when they try to dance it becomes impossible.

Michael Strange  
Charleston resident

### Editorial Board members

Nicole Meinheit  
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Matt Neistein

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Michelle Jones  
Shauna Gustafson

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printed. Depending on space constraints, we may have to edit your letter, so keep it as concise as possible. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to [cunmm2@pen.eiu.edu](mailto:cunmm2@pen.eiu.edu)  
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# News staff announced for spring 2001

## Amy Thon to take over as editor in chief for spring semester

The Daily Eastern News has announced its new staff for the spring 2001 semester. Amy Thon, a senior journalism major from Lombard, will take over as editor in chief. Thon served as the news editor for the past two semesters. She also has worked as the associate news editor, editorial page editor, campus editor and student government editor. She is taking over for Nicole Meinheit, a senior English major from Peotone, who will student teach next semester. Kyle Bauer, a senior journalism major from Elwood, will continue as managing editor. Bauer has worked as the associate



Amy Thon

sports editor and sports editor. Chris Sievers, a junior journalism major from Robinson, has been appointed news editor. Sievers previously served as the editorial page editor and student government editor. Michelle Jones, a sophomore journalism and English major from Frankfort, will be the associate news editor. Jones worked as campus editor, student government editor and activities editor. Matt Neistein, a junior journalism major from Homewood, will be the editorial page editor. Neistein was the associate news editor and also worked as features editor and city editor. Shauna Gustafson, a sophomore journalism major from Cherry Valley, will be the development director. Gustafson has



Nicole Meinheit

worked as city editor and administration editor. Sara Figiel, a junior journalism major from Park Forest, will continue as photo editor. Figiel also has worked as associate photo editor. Kate Mitchell, a junior journalism major from Charleston, has been appointed associate photo editor. Mitchell previously was a staff photographer. Bill Ruthhart, a junior journalism major from Rock Island, will serve as sports editor. Ruthhart has worked as the associate sports editor. Jamie Moore, a junior journalism major from Salem, will take over as Verge editor. She previously was the activities editor. Ben Tully, a sophomore journalism major from Wheaton, will be the associate

Verge editor. Tully previously was a staff writer. Joe Ryan, a junior journalism major from Chicago, will take over as administration editor. Ryan previously was a staff writer. Karen Kirr, a freshman journalism major from Naperville, will serve as campus editor. Kirr previously was a staff writer. Jennifer Rigg, a junior journalism major from Mt. Carmel, will be the activities editor. Rigg previously was a staff writer. Jeremy Pelzer, a freshman journalism major from Evanston, will be the student government editor. Pelzer previously was a staff writer. Amber Williams, a sophomore journalism major from Mattoon, will take over as city editor. Williams previously worked as city and campus editors. Leslie Williams, a senior English major from Peoria, will take over as features editor. Williams previously was a staff writer.



File photo

### Semester changes

The shuttle bus committee will meet today to discuss next semester's new bus route for the Panther Express. The meeting is at 5 p.m. in the Oakland Room on the third floor of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Next semester, a second bus will be added to the route. The Student Senate approved a fee increase of \$3.10 this semester for the operation of the second bus.

By Christine Demma

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# Police department to update emergency contact information

By Sara Figiel  
Staff writer

The Charleston Police department currently is contacting local businesses and stores within the Charleston city corporate limits to update its emergency contact information and meet with them in person.

It already has contacted about 100 local businesses and is planning to contact about 200 more within the next three weeks.

"If we start getting a rash of situations where they are trying to contact people and can't contact them, they will contact the next

day," said Lt. Roger Cunningham.

The purpose of updating stores and businesses emergency contact information is to try to facilitate an easy way for the police department to contact a local business in case of an emergency.

If the information is not updated periodically, it becomes a hassle for members of the police force to efficiently do their jobs, Cunningham said.

The last time the Charleston Police Department updated its files was four years ago.

"When it starts to get cumbersome for us to do our job, we try to update as a whole," Cunningham

said.

Emergency situations where a business or store may need to be contacted could be a fire at or around the establishment.

The police department is getting the updated information in person so the officers can interact with the business managers and personnel in person in order to convey the importance of the information being correct, he said.

Types of information being updated include the name of business, current phone number and a list of people to contact after hours.

# Production of meth, seizing of home labs growing quickly throughout Illinois

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — Production of the drug methamphetamine is on the rise in Illinois, authorities say, with a 10-fold increase in the number of meth labs seized in just the last few years.

Meth, which goes by the street names of "crank" and "ice" among others, was popular in California for years before making its way east. In the mid-1990s, the drug became popular in Missouri and eventually worked its way across the Mississippi River into Illinois.

In 1997, authorities in Illinois turned up 24 meth labs, 11 of them in Adams County.

Most of the rest were in four counties at the southwestern tip of the state.

By last year the number of meth labs seized by authorities jumped to 246, including 56 in east-central Illinois' Coles County and Jackson County in southern Illinois.

"When we first started getting

labs in 1997, we'd get about one or two a month. Now it's not uncommon to get three or four a week," said Master Sgt. Bruce Liebe of the Illinois State Police, who spent the last three years on loan to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, seizing meth labs. "If we continue at the pace we're at, the projection will be over 400 this year."

Liebe said meth presents two big problems: it's addictive and easy to make. In Illinois, the most common method of meth production uses anhydrous ammonia, an extremely volatile chemical but one that is easy to find in rural areas because it's a common fertilizer.

In addition, meth can be produced using cold tablets, alcohol, ether, paint thinner, Epsom salts and Drano. The laboratories are small and simple, so can be found just about anywhere.

"With regard to labs being found in rural areas, it's almost a misnomer," Liebe said. "We do

With regard to labs being found in rural areas, it's almost a misnomer. We do get some labs in the country, but the majority are within a residential area, with other homes around. It's more common to seize a lab in a neighborhood.

Bruce Liebe,  
master sergeant, Illinois State Police

get some labs in the country, but the majority are within a residential area, with other homes around. It's more common to seize a lab in a neighborhood."

Drug experts say meth has yet to make big inroads in larger cities like Chicago, where there is already a supply of relatively inexpensive cocaine.

# City Council amends IDOT agreement Nov. 21

By Shauna Gustafson  
City editor

The City Council voted Nov. 21 on an amended agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation for roadwork to be done on Illinois Route 16 near the Wal-Mart Supercenter.

The city had entered an agreement with IDOT that would have the state pay for part of the cost of widening the road to five lanes near the new store. The city will receive money for the project after completion.

The council also voted to amend a contract with the International Union of Operating Engineers, the city maintenance workers' union. The change in the

contract changes the wording to include the Parks Department and the Recreation Department under listing as city employees.

"Everything flew through," Mayor Dan Coughlin said.

Also at the meeting, the council tabled an agreement that would have annexed a 0.188 acre lot located on Woodlawn Drive to the city. Reginald and Martha Phillips claim ownership of the property and plan to build a duplex lot if the site is annexed.

"It's questionable who the owner is," Coughlin said.

He said the council decided to table the agreement until after the matter of ownership is settled. The matter has been taken to court.

# Thanksgiving travelers load planes, trains and cars

(AP) - Busy airports, congested roads and trains, and wet, foggy weather in some parts of the country on Sunday made the trip home that much longer for Thanksgiving travelers.

With the Air Transport Association predicting a record 2.24 million passengers, airport officials were bracing for the worst.

Soupy fog in Chicago made traveling a headache for some at O'Hare International Airport, including Travis Everhardus, who sat amid a pile of bags next to a United Airlines service desk. He arrived from Charlotte, N.C., only to find that his flight home to Kalamazoo, Mich., had been canceled, apparently due to the weather.

"I'm a little frustrated," Everhardus said. But he added that he wasn't angry with United. "As far as I can tell, it's out of their control, too."

Airline officials said fog and mist were slowing takeoffs at airports in other cities, too, including San

Francisco and Los Angeles.

At San Francisco International Airport, fog forced cancellation of 20 flights in the morning and delayed others up to 2 1/2 hours.

"We're still going to be seeing the effects of this at midnight tonight. It's just not going to catch up," said airport duty manager Denis Richardson.

Most delays at Logan International Airport in Boston were about 90 minutes, with longer hold-ups on some flights between the city and the West Coast, New York and Chicago.

"Considering the weather, we've been very lucky," said Jose Juves, spokesman for the Massachusetts Ports Authority.

It was easy sailing for other travelers despite the threat of cancellations due to labor strife at United Airlines.

"It's been smooth so far," said Amy Wang, 26, before she boarded a flight from foggy Chicago to sunny San Diego.

# State lawmaker proposes election reforms for Illinois

CHICAGO (AP) — The chairman of the state's House Committee on Election and Campaign Reform plans to push mandatory recounts and other sweeping election reforms in Illinois to prevent the election mess currently unfolding in Florida.

"We are a disaster waiting to happen," state Rep. Mike Boland, D-East Moline, said at a news conference Sunday in downtown Chicago.

Among other things, Boland plans to introduce legislation to

make machine recounts mandatory and state-funded if candidates are divided by fewer than 1 percent of votes — and mandatory hand recounts if they're divided by fewer than a half percent.

Currently, candidates must use their own money and get court permission to do recounts.

"Democracy should not be for sale," said Boland, who was a delegate at this year's Democratic National Convention but insists election reforms are not a partisan issue.

In addition to his recount reforms, Boland is proposing banning butterfly ballots, namely the type used in Cook County's judicial retention elections. He also wants the state to give grants to counties to find alternatives to punch-hole ballots and suggested that an "optic scan" method — where voters would fill in an oval next to their candidate's name using a No. 2 pencil — might work well.

Boland says he plans to discuss his proposals with his fellow law-

makers, including House Speaker Michael Madigan, on Tuesday during the fall veto session in Springfield. He plans to introduce the legislation in January.

Steve Brown, a spokesman for Madigan, called Boland's proposals "something worth looking at."

A spokeswoman for Gov. George Ryan said the governor would like to hear Boland's full proposal this week before commenting.

Boland said past state elections prove the need for his recount mea-

sures — including the tight gubernatorial race in 1982 when former Gov. James Thompson defeated former Sen. Adlai Stevenson. The Illinois Supreme Court rejected Stevenson's request for a statewide recount.

Indeed, state and local elections are most likely to be close, since there are a smaller number of voters, said Dean Spiliotes, an assistant professor of government at Dartmouth College who specializes in elections and domestic policy.

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# Bush named as winner in Florida after recount

(AP) — Texas Gov. George W. Bush said Sunday night he was “honored and humbled” to have won Florida’s contested election and he asked Al Gore to reconsider his decision to contest the outcome.

The Florida certification, Bush said, “gives us the needed electoral votes to win the election” and the White House.

In late night remarks delivered from the Texas state capitol, Bush said he and running mate Dick Cheney would “undertake the responsibility of preparing to serve as America’s next president and vice president.”

Earlier Sunday, Florida’s secretary of state certified Bush the winner over Al Gore in the state’s near-deadlocked presidential vote — but court challenges left in doubt which man will be the ultimate victor and 43rd president of the United States.

Moments after Republican

Katherine Harris declared Bush the winner of Florida’s 25 electoral votes at a ceremony in Tallahassee, Sen. Joe Lieberman, the Democratic vice presidential nominee, said she had certified “an incomplete and inaccurate count” and that he and Gore had no choice but to contest the election.

If the certification of a 537-vote Bush margin stands, the Texas governor would win 271 electoral college votes — one more than necessary for victory — to 267 for Gore.

Harris said Bush had 2,912,790 votes and Gore had 2,912,253. That gave Bush the 537-vote lead out of 6 million cast, although Harris rejected partial returns from Palm Beach County. An unofficial AP tally including recounted Palm Beach County votes showed Bush ahead by 357.

The secretary of state’s formal

declaration, which set off GOP cheers outside

the Florida capital and at the state capitol in Austin, Texas: “Accordingly, on behalf of the state elections canvassing commission and in accordance with the laws of the state of Florida, I hereby declare Governor George W. Bush the winner of Florida’s 25 electoral votes.”

Lieberman said, “The integrity of our self-government” could be cast into doubt without Democratic steps to get the most complete and accurate count possible. Gore’s lawyers were to file their challenge in the courts of Leon County, site of the state capitol at Tallahassee, Monday morning.

James A. Baker III, the former secretary of state speaking for Bush — who was making his own statement later Sunday night — said that count already has been delivered, repeatedly.

## Israel faces new problems

KFAR CHOUBA, Lebanon (AP) - Israel — still engaged in violence with the Palestinians — faced fresh security problems Sunday in Lebanon, where it rained missiles and machine gun fire in retaliation for a Hezbollah bombing that killed one soldier.

The assault was Israel’s first cross-border retaliatory attack since pulling its troops from southern Lebanon in May to end Israel’s 18-year occupation of a border enclave there. The Israeli army confirmed striking back with gunfire after the roadside bombing in Chebaa Farms near the Lebanese border. One civilian was slightly injured on the Lebanese side.

Lebanese President Emile Lahoud, in comments on state-run television, called the Israeli raids a “grave precedent that may entail serious repercussions for which Israel is alone responsible.”

The violence at Chebaa Farms — an uninhabited strip of land in the western foothills of Mount Hermon where the borders of Lebanon, Syria and Israel meet — occurred against the backdrop of continued Israeli-Palestinian clashes.

Two months of fighting in the West Bank and Gaza have left more than 270 people dead, most of them Palestinians. In minor clashes Sunday, Israeli soldiers returned fire from Palestinian gunmen in the

West Bank city of Hebron, the southern Gaza Strip and the southern edge of Jerusalem. Several stone-throwing confrontations in the West Bank also were reported.

The only fatality was a Palestinian who died in the Gaza Strip from head wounds suffered in a clash six days earlier, Palestinian doctors said.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak acknowledged Sunday on Israeli radio that “never has an Israeli government used such great force against the Palestinians — rockets, tanks, and returning fire when needed.”

Barak, who was a general before becoming a politician, pointed to his years in the army and assured Israelis that he knew how to handle the conflict. He said he was pursuing diplomatic efforts to salvage seven years of peacemaking with the Palestinians. Foreign Minister Shlomo Ben-Ami was tentatively scheduled to travel Monday to Russia for talks on the Mideast crisis.

The attacks in south Lebanon also came a day before the start of Ramadan, the holiest month in the Islamic calendar. Two Arab countries, Egypt and Jordan, took the unusual step of using the Muslim holiday to call for the “liberation” of a revered Jerusalem mosque from Israeli control.

## daily briefing

### Marijuana use drops for third year

NEW YORK (AP) — Teenage marijuana use has dropped for a third straight year, but a jump in the use of the “club drug” ecstasy raised new concerns for parents, according to the Partnership for a Drug-Free America’s annual report.

The nonprofit group’s 13th survey, being released Monday, questioned 7,290 students in seventh through 12th grades nationwide. The margin of error is plus or minus 1.5 percentage points.

Use of ecstasy, a favorite at dance clubs and all-night raves, has doubled among teens since 1995, the survey found. One in 10 teens has experimented with the drug, it said.

The report found the number of teens who have tried ecstasy at least once had increased from 7 percent to 10 percent over the past year. In contrast, the 40 percent of teens saying they had tried marijuana was down from 41 percent last year.

It was the third consecutive drop-off in teen marijuana use since 1997, when 44 percent of teens said they had used the drug at least once.

“We appear to be turning a very important corner,” said Richard D. Bonnette, the partnership’s president and chief executive officer. “But as we turn one corner, troubling developments are coming at us from other directions — specifically with ecstasy.”

### Holiday shopping season gets off to a solid beginning

NEW YORK (AP) — The first weekend of the holiday shopping season turned out to be a pleasant surprise for wor-

ried retailers: The consumers who crowded malls and used e-commerce sites spent more than expected.

“Sales looked pretty decent,” Michael P. Niemira, vice president of the Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi, said Sunday as he estimated that the weekend’s sales would be about 5 to 6 percent higher than last year. “It’s a good start to the season. But where it goes from here remains to be seen.”

The solid sales followed months of sluggish business for many retailers, but the Thanksgiving weekend receipts were the result of hard work by merchants. Faced with an overall drop in consumer spending, retailers began discounting earlier than usual and focused more on what they expected would be the hot items.

### Tobacco legal war shifts to Brooklyn

NEW YORK (AP) — A lawsuit filed with little fanfare three years ago has emerged as the latest flash point in the high-stakes legal battle between the tobacco industry and opponents who claim it conspired to conceal the dangers of smoking.

On Monday, attorneys will meet in court to begin picking jurors for a two-month trial pitting a trust fund for sick asbestos workers against R.J. Reynolds, Brown & Williamson and other tobacco giants.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs say damages could exceed \$3 billion.

The trial is the first out of a backlog of about a dozen tobacco claims filed in federal court in Brooklyn, some filed under civil provisions of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act. Unlike class-action suits filed by consumers, most of the Brooklyn cases were brought by third parties, including health insurance groups who want Big Tobacco to share the cost of treating patients with cigarette-related illnesses.

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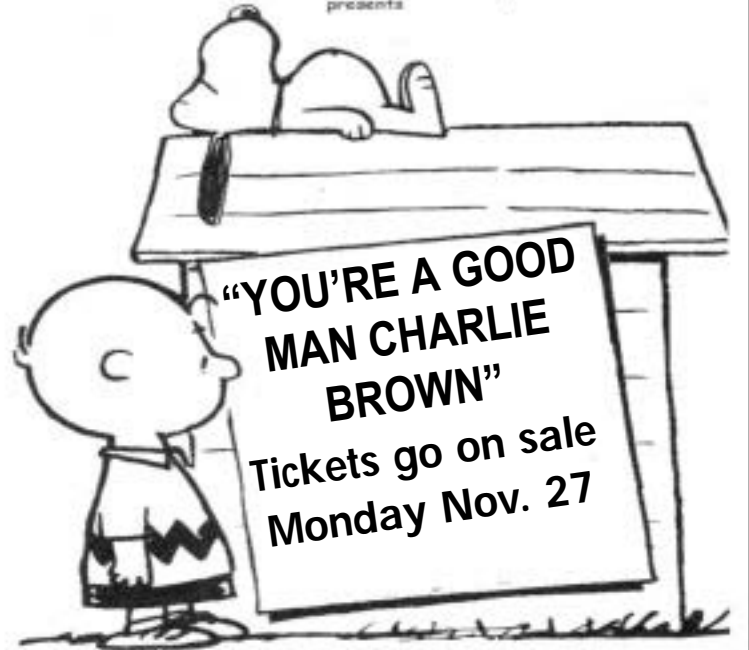
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Clips submitted AFTER DEADLINE WILL NOT be published. No clips will be  
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ACROSS

1 Minnesota's Gov. Ventura

6 Artist Picasso

11 Educ. support group

14 Make permanent, as cartoon drawings

15 Jack who ate no fat

16 Big coffee holder

17 Checked pattern in fabrics

19 "Dollars, taxes," e.g., for Dallas, Texas

20 Ready

21 Flowering plant that climbs

23 Old terr. west of Minnesota

24 Paintings

26 Part of a dental exam

27 "Remembrance of Things Past" novelist

30 Jockey's wear

33 Walk in water

36 Short

38 Isolated

39 Clothes presser

40 First month of el año

41 Integrally divisible by two

42 Writing on the wall, e.g.

43 Cut

44 Requirement

45 Tree with large, oblong leaves

47 Tend to, as a bad lawn

49 Amo, \_\_\_\_, amal (Latin trio)

51 Word before France or Jordan

52 Flub

55 Opened up space (for)

59 The puck stops here?

61 Elderly

62 Classic comic strip by Bud Fisher

64 Note after fa

65 Taking advantage of

66 Top scout

67 Golf ball support

68 Like last year's fashions

69 Washer's partner

DOWN

1 Holy war

2 W.W. II plane

3 Lie in wait

4 They're recited in confessions

5 Ingratiate

6 L.A. clock setting

7 Mil. addresses

8 It may be furrowed

9 Material for a doctor's glove

10 Them

11 Infatuation

12 Steadfast

13 The "I" in "The King and I"

18 Flashing lights

Answer to today's puzzle

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INKIN SPRAT PUN  
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# UTM advances to finals, SEMO takes third OVC volleyball title

By Kristin Rojek  
Sports editor

Two volleyball players were named to the All-OVC team following Eastern's third place finish in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament Nov. 17.

Junior middle hitter Leslie Przekwas was voted to the First Team All-Conference, leading the league in hitting percentage (.333) and blocks per game (1.30). Przekwas also ranked among the Top 10 for kills per game (3.40).

Przekwas broke the school's single season record with her hitting percentage and 114 block assists ranks second all-time.

Teammate Carrie Stevens joined Przekwas in all-conference honors earning a Second-Team All-OVC mark at the end of the season. Originally a walk-on to the volleyball team, the junior utilized her position in the starting line-up as a middle hitter this season. Stevens finished third for Eastern in service aces (.27), digs (2.79) and hitting percentage (.238). She also ranks fourth in kills (.278), assists (.53) and blocks (.55).

The combination of these two players led Eastern to finish the sea-

son with a 18-13 overall record and a 11-5 finish in the conference. The Panthers advanced to the semifinals of the OVC tournament last weekend after defeating Murray State 3-1 in the first round.

"The first game went really well, and I feel that we were confident we'd make it into the championship," Przekwas said.

Eastern advanced to the semifinal round to face Tennessee-Martin. The Skyhawks came into the contest with a first-round bye. Eastern fell in four games, suffering 15-13, 13-15, 15-13 and 15-9.

Junior middle hitter Marcia Hahn led Eastern with a career-high 123 blocks while teammate, sophomore Karen Liss, led with 19 kills.

Eastern opened early against Tennessee-Martin in game one with a 11-4 lead, but the Skyhawks quickly recovered on Southeast Missouri's home court to defeat the Panthers 15-13.

Eastern battled back in the second game from a 13-12 deficit to win 15-13. Although the Skyhawks held a 11-1 lead in game three, the Panthers made a 13-11 comeback, but Tennessee-Martin took its second victory of the day 15-13 and sealed its

semifinal victory with a game four win at 15-9.

Senior outside hitter Kim Blackwell made a solo appearance for Eastern on the All-Tournament team, making the honor after her final collegiate performance last weekend. Blackwell finished with 18 kills and 14 digs, but fell short of Eastern's dig record by four.

"The achievements that Carrie, Kim and I had was a highlight and made everyone have more confidence," Przekwas said. "Next year we'll be a more experienced team with six seniors, and with that kind of leadership we'll be phenomenal."

Tennessee-Martin continued into the finals of the OVC tournament for the first time in the school's history. Southeast Missouri defeated Austin Peay to continue into the final round against the Skyhawks.

SEMO swept Tennessee-Martin 3-0 for its third consecutive league title Nov. 18. The Otahkians became the first team to three-peat as tournament champions since Eastern Kentucky's reign of six consecutive titles from 1981-86.

The Otahkians captured the title with a 15-5, 15-3, 15-9 victory over the Skyhawks.

# Elite runners battle bitter temperatures

## Bialka finishes 229 in NCAA competition

By Kristin Rojek  
Sports editor

This year's NCAA cross country championship was not only a competition for a national title, but a battle to survive the bitter cold in Ames, Iowa.

The 10,000-meter race at Iowa State was held in conditions near a minus 15 degree wind chill Monday morning and runners immediately felt the impact.

Junior Jason Bialka was the first Eastern runner to qualify since 1997 following his fifth-place finish at the regional competition. Although Bialka was hopeful to finish among the top 50, he finished 229 in a field of 255 with a time of 33:15.

"We knew it was going to affect a few people, but he was near hypothermia when he finished," head coach John McInerney said. "It was rough because he hasn't struggled all year, but the weather is one of those things you just can't control."

At the mile mark, Bialka was out where he needed to be, within the top 50, but the weather soon took its toll.

"He started to freeze up a bit at the mile and couldn't feel his hands, and

after that it continued up his arms," McInerney said. "At two and a half miles he dropped back. He went out after it, and unfortunately, the weather got the best of him."

Providence's Keith Kelly, the pre-race favorite, won the individual title with a time of 30:14 while Arkansas was the team champion.

"At the end of the race our main concern was to get him warmer," McInerney said. "It was a good experience, but it was a combination of knowing that there was nothing more physically do to and the emotional draining."

McInerney looks for Bialka to come back from the national experience strong and well-prepared for the upcoming indoor track season. Although Monday is a day Bialka himself would like to forget, his first experience at nationals will be a learning experience.

"I took two things from that race," Bialka said. "I learned that no matter what, you have to be ready to run in anything they throw at you, and I definitely wasn't prepared. I also know I have to work much harder because a lot of guys made it look easy."

# Grizzlies

from Page 12

back Obinno Coley.

"I'm glad I was able to step up, and I'm glad I got the two interceptions," Coley said. "But I would have rather have gotten no interceptions and won."

The second half of the game was

the same old story for the Panthers as they were stopped on their first drive in three plays, and then the Grizzly offense put another touchdown on the board to go up 24-7.

"We came out in the first half and played well. We sputtered in the second quarter," Farris said. "But then we came out in the second half and put it on them when we needed to."

With just over 11 minutes left in the game, Montana got its last score

when defensive lineman Andy Petek hit Romo and caused him to fumble. Linebacker Matt Steinau scooped up the ball and rumbled 38 yards.

Eastern was able to put one more touchdown on the board with 7:56 left in the game Romo hit tight end Nathan Kreke on a four-yard pass to make the score 45-13.

"It was definitely a good game today, but I guess it wasn't meant to be. But these things happen. We just

didn't make the plays," Romo said.

Eastern was able to get into the playoffs with a win last week against Ohio Valley Conference rival Eastern Kentucky 49-6.

Despite the loss against the Grizzlies that ended the Panthers season, they don't see the season as a disappointment by any means.

"After the game I thanked them for a great year," Spoo said. "For me, it was really rewarding coming back

from a 2-10 year."

Eastern did have many players make the All-OVC team including Romo, who was the OVC Offensive Player of the Year. Kreke, Matt Gehrig, Dan Fellows, Mike Carlin and Kourtney Young all made First Team honors. Second team honors were given to Frank Cutolo and Nick Ricks, while honorable mention members were Bill Besenhofer and John Williams.

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Rugrats in Paris G  
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# Panthers seek first win against Western tonight

By Derek Cuculich  
Staff writer

Eastern's men's basketball team will return to Lantz Gymnasium today at 7:10 p.m. to take on the Leathernecks of Western Illinois after a tough week on the road.

"Western is a dangerous team right now," head coach Rick Samuels said. "They haven't won a game and they're a young team learning how to play. I'll expect their best performance of the season right now."

Eastern now plays its next four of six games at home, with one game on the road to Loyola.

"We're excited to play at home because there's always the feeling to play in familiar surroundings," Samuels said. "We're looking forward to the next three weeks."

Over a week-long break the Panthers (0-2) dropped games to Butler University and the University of Nebraska.

"We executed offensively better at Nebraska than at Butler," Samuels. "We still need to have a better shooting percentage."

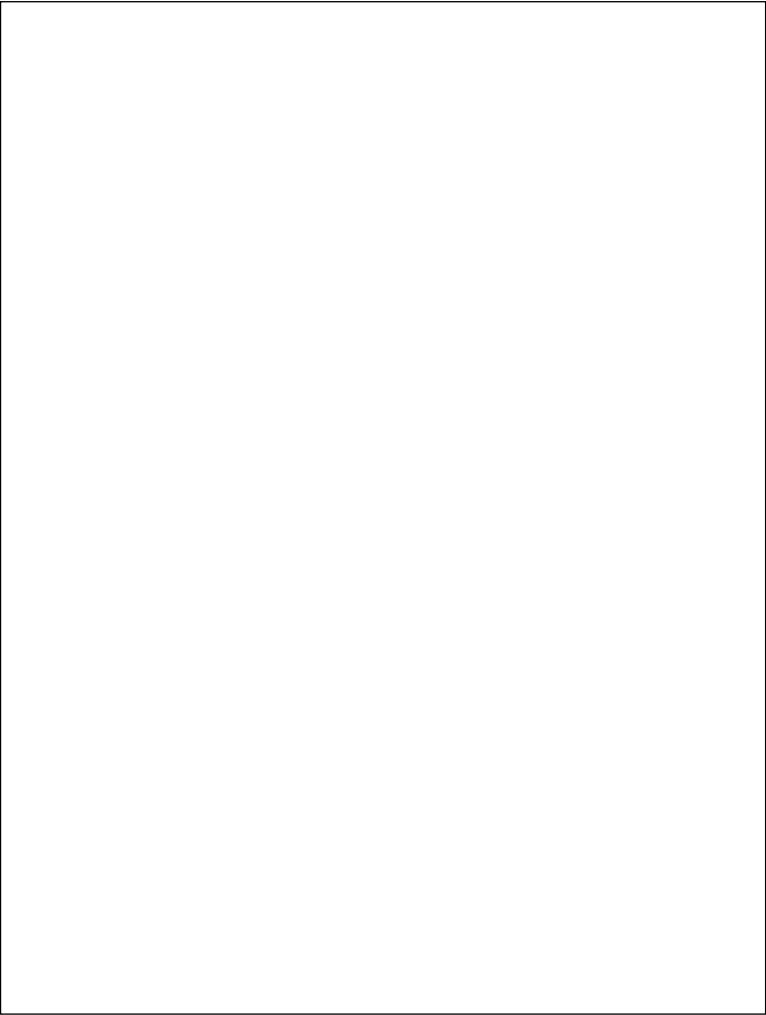
In their season opener, the Panthers came out of the gates looking good but ran out of gas in the second half en route to a 90-73 loss to Butler.

The Panthers, led by Kyle Hill's 21 points, were ahead at halftime 40-39, but the second half was a different story as they were outscored 51-33.

Eastern saw an encouraging play from Todd Bergmann, who racked up a career-high 19 points and seven rebounds in 38 minutes of play.

Although the turnovers and foul totals were down against Nebraska, the result was the same. Eastern suffered its second straight loss by the score of 85-71.

Panther sophomore Henry Domercant led the Panthers with a career-high 23 points, shooting 10-



Eric Wolters/ Assoc. photo editor

Sophomore guard Henry Domercant reaches for a basket while teammate Jan Thompson hurries across the court Nov. 13 in an exhibition game.

18 from the field.

Eastern lacked the scoring balance of Nebraska, as the Corn Huskers had four of their five starters in double figures while the Panthers only had two.

In Eastern's home opener, both teams will be coming into the game searching for their first win of the season.

The Leathernecks are led by backcourt returning starters Bill Heisler and Matt Robins. The tandem will look to get Western out of their poor shooting slump which is

at 34.6 percent from the field.

Eastern will hope to have the positive play of Hill, Domercant and Thompson in rhythm to gain the victory. The Panthers also will look to get senior guard Matt Britton more involved in the offense.

Britton, who has 18 points through two games, only has four assists. He will need to boost his assist numbers from last season's results (3.8 assists per game, good enough to rank eighth in the OVC for the Panthers) to have their best chance for a victory.

At the 3:10 mark in the second half, Schaul's three-pointer gave the Panthers a 68-65 lead. Bradley's Marti Davis decreased the Braves' deficit with a lay-up, the first basket for Bradley in six minutes. Eastern held Bradley to finish with a slim 68-67 victory.

Schaul was joined by teammate Colleen McShane in scoring as McShane finished with 15 points. Both hit crucial three-point shots in the second half and were able to tie the game at 48, much improved from its 16-point deficit in the first half.

Eastern suffered with 25 turnovers

in the game compared to Bradley's 18. Bradley's Sara Bailey dominated the Braves' court with 31 total points and a game-high 11 rebounds.

Eastern opened its season with a 106-59 loss to Missouri. Down 51-26 at the half, Eastern saw continuing problems in its turnover ratio. Eastern finished with 33 turnovers while Missouri held to 19 turnovers.

The Panthers were led by Russell with 13 points while freshman Lauren Dailey finished with 12. On the defensive end, O'Connor finished with seven rebounds while Dailey contributed six.

# A frozen dinner for Thanksgiving

By Anthony Braviere  
Associate sports editor

The Shooter



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One time somebody asked me what it was like to be a writer with all of the traveling and work, and I always told them that it wasn't that hard. But all of that was before this past weekend's mayhem from the trip to Montana.

It all started last Monday when Dave Kidwell, assistant director of athletics and sports information and marketing, called me and said we were going to be leaving on Thanksgiving Day. Once those words came out of his mouth, I could feel the carnage beginning.

When I found out we were going, I told my mom that I was going to be missing Thanksgiving, and it got a little bit colder in the room. She was upset to say the least.

This was the first holiday I would miss with my family in my 20 years of existence, and I was not very happy about that, but I thought it was something that I had to do.

It was actually kind of sad that my Thanksgiving meal was a Michellina frozen dinner and a toaster scramble.

We left from Charleston at 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving and arrived in Missoula, Mont. at around 6:30 p.m., local time, and finally got to the hotel at 7 p.m.

After that my activity was limited. I mean think about it, it was Montana for chrissakes. My second Thanksgiving meal was a pizza. The only turkey I got the whole day was on the sandwich I ate on the flight. I then went to bed watching the Karate Kid Part II at around 11 p.m.

I woke up early on Saturday and had some breakfast, took some pictures of the scenery, which was honestly gorgeous, and then it was off to the mall to kill some time.

It was actually amazing how much Montana Grizzly apparel there was in this place. There were two to three stores that had entire walls dedicated to the university.

I did go out on Friday night to see some of the Missoula night life, and granted, it was a good time. There was nobody there because of the Thanksgiving break. It was the six to seven people from Eastern and the bar stools. It wasn't like that everywhere, but at most of the

places there was no one around.

On game day I got up early to get cold eggs and slimy ham. Once we got on the bus to go to the stadium, Athletic Director Rich McDuffie stood up and told us that the plane would be delayed until 10:00 p.m. from original departure time of 6:30 p.m. The reason being the mechanical problems the plane was facing. I guess it was better down on the ground than up in the air.

We got to the game about an hour and a half before the game and the highlight of the trip came when the press box food guy told me that they had prime rib sandwiches. Maybe the trip would be alright after all?

But it all went downhill from there. The Panthers lost the game and ended their season, we had to wait forever to leave the stadium and ate bad food at the buffet, except for the broccoli cheese soup, which the people at Granny's buffet can hang their hats on. Other than that, it was garbage.

Then to kill time before we had to go the airport, we got to see a free movie which you would think is a great deal, but I decided to see "Bagger Vance" and that was two hours and 15 minutes of my life I can never have back.

To end a trip that was very similar to the movie "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles," we got to the airport and there was no plane.

We waited for an hour before a plane got there and we could board and make our way back to Charleston.

The nightmare trip finally came to an end at 4 a.m. Sunday when I got home.

Don't get me wrong. Montana was a great place to be for about 12 hours, and the people I stayed with were great, but I wouldn't wish the rest of the trip on a snake.

## Panthers

from Page 12

This was the Panther's first win of the regular season, having dropped its season opener to Missouri Friday Nov. 17, 106-59.

Eastern's win at Bradley spoiled Bradley's home opener Paula Buscher's first game with the Braves as new head coach. Eastern was led by senior guard Renee Schaul, who scored 12 points in the second half to finish with a team-high 17 points.

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## Time Out



**Anthony Braviere**

Associate sports editor  
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### Who wants to play here?

Chicago Cubs' first baseman will reportedly leave the Cubs to sign with the Arizona Diamondbacks this week. Think about playing for a team that actually has a chance of winning every year, or one who has a chance up until May every year.

### Things not understood

Chicago White Sox shortstop Jose Valentin decided to take less money to re-sign with the Pale Hose this past week. Apparently he wanted to know what it would feel like to lose in the first round of the playoffs again.

### Contaminated team

Some of the wooden bleachers that were taken out of the old County Stadium in Milwaukee and sold as souvenirs were apparently contaminated with a lead-based paint. The Brewers haven't ruled out the fact that their bad playing could have also contaminated the bleachers.

### Knicks not as valuable

The New York Knicks are ranked No. 1 on "Forbes" list of the most valuable teams in the National Basketball Association. Many teams seem to be more happy with getting more wins than the Knicks in the past few years than being more valuable. Just ask the San Antonio Spurs.

### Two people and a trailer

Virginia Tech's football team is fighting to stay alive in the BCS race for an at-large bid to a BCS bowl. They are in the running with Notre Dame and Nebraska to name a few. Seriously, the BCS would have to be dumber than a bag of hammers to pick Virginia Tech, who would bring half of a very small town and two double-wide trailers, or the Fighting Irish and Huskers, who have fans all over the country.

### Just some clarification

Timeout would like to ask just one question about the NCAA football championship race. What the heck does all of this mean? Why not just get rid of the whole BCS system and get a playoff system. But that would be too easy for the NCAA, or in the words of Brian Bosworth, NCAA stands for National Communists Against

### Quote of the Week

Athletes.

"I'm glad I was able to step up, and I'm glad I got the two interceptions, but I would have rather have gotten no interceptions and won," Eastern's defensive back Obinno Coley said after the football team's loss to Montana

# Grizzlies rip open Panthers

Eastern's defense fails to counteract Montana's 461 yards for a 45-13 loss

By **Anthony Braviere**  
Associate sports editor

MISSOULA, Mont. – While Eastern made its first trip to the playoffs since 1996, it was unable to get past the first round for the seventh time in its history, as it lost to the University of Montana 45-13.

"They are a pretty damn good football team," Eastern head coach Bob Spoo said. "We just got a good old fashioned butt whipping today."

The Panthers were unable to find a defense to counteract a Grizzly offense which tore through the Panther defense for 461 yards of total offense in front 16,212 fans.

While most of the yards came in the first half, much of the scoring came in the second half because of the play by backup quarterback John Edwards, who started the second half for the Grizzlies.

"He has that added dimension of being able to the ball," Spoo said. "And when a quarterback can do that, it really ties up your defense."

While the University of Montana came into the game as the No. 1 team in the nation, the game did start with some encouraging signs for the Panthers, until the 11:58 mark of the first quarter. Grizzly starting quarterback Drew Miller tossed an 80-yard touchdown pass to Jimmy Farris to make the score 7-0 Montana.

Daniel Snyder added a 29-yard field goal with just over eight minutes left in the first quarter to put Montana ahead at 10-0. Eastern gave up the ball again and this time Miller hit flanker Etu Molden on a 73-yard bomb which he fumbled on, and Farris picked up and headed into the endzone from eight yard out.

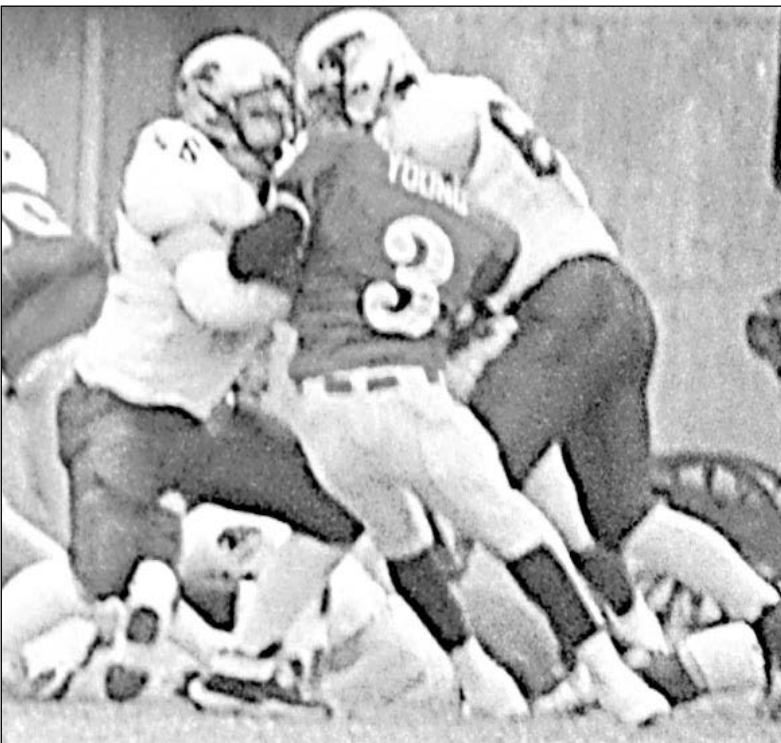
"That's just Jimmy Farris being Jimmy Farris," Montana head coach Joe Glenn said. "It's just like him to be hustling down there looking for a block and just happen to be at the right place at the right time."

Eastern was finally able to get on the board with 11:36 left in the half when quarterback Tony Romo hit Will Bumphus with a 53-yard bomb that Bumphus came back on to make a leaping catch.

"All week I've been working on coming back for balls," Bumphus said. "This was just one of those times I had to come back. I wish I could have done more of it."

The Panthers were able to intercept three passes from Grizzly starter Miller, by help of linebacker Fred Miller and two others from defensive

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(Top) Senior Nathan Kreke attempts to get past two of Montana's defense Saturday at the University of Montana. (Left) Eastern's offense gets put to the test against Grizzly defenseman Trey Young as he places himself between two Panthers.

– Photos by **Anthony Braviere**  
Staff photographer

# Panthers end road trip with defeat



**Karee Ethridge**/ Staff photographer

Senior guard Portery Scott dribbles past an Ohio Premier All-Star Nov. 12 during Eastern's second exhibition game in Lantz Gym.

By **Kristin Rojek**  
Sports editor

The women's basketball ended its three-game road trip with an 84-46 loss to Iowa State Sunday, handing Eastern a 1-2 start before Wednesday's home opener.

Eastern entered the Hilton Coliseum in front of over 11,000 fans to face No. 8 Iowa State (2-0).

The Cyclones are the highest ranked team Eastern has faced since 1985 when the Panthers battled No. 11 Tennessee and lost 75-69.

With a 43-18 deficit heading into the second half, Eastern doubled its output in the second half to score 28 points. It wasn't enough, however, as the Cyclones continued its offensive dominance with an additional 41

points. Iowa State held to a 53.2 shooting percentage while holding Eastern to 31.5 shooting percentage.

A light for Eastern Sunday was its improvement in the turnover margin, suffering against Bradley and Missouri to combine for 58 turnovers. Eastern committed just 18 turnovers against Iowa State while the Cyclones finished with 19.

While the Panthers went 8-28 in field goals and 0-11 in three-point attempts, the second half was improved, as freshman guard Tiffany Rudak went 2-for-3 behind the three-point arc. Freshman Pam O'Connor led the Panthers' scoring with 14 points while senior forward Angie Russell led the defensive end with 7 rebounds.

Earlier in the week, Eastern picked up a non-conference win over Bradley Tuesday 68-67.

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Women's basketball

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